

App. No. 10/606,278
Amendment Dated: May 24, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 24, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

parsing an electronic document for a person name;

passing the person name to at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ containing person-centric data;

at the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~, obtaining ~~any~~ person-centric data associated with the person name;

populating a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data obtained at the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~; and

providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document.

2 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, further comprising displaying at least one name centric action ~~one or more name centric actions~~ in the graphical user interface

3 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby parsing an electronic document for a person name includes obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name.

4 (currently amended): The method of Claim 3, whereby obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes obtaining ~~any~~ data associated with the person name for identifying ~~that may be used to identify~~ the person name.

5 (original): The method of Claim 4, whereby obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes obtaining an electronic mail address for the person name.

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6 (currently amended): The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
if when no unique identifying information is associated with the person name in the electronic document,
recognizing the person name from text or data in which the person name is included;
passing the recognized person name to a contacts database; and
at the contacts database, obtaining unique identifying information for the person name.

7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 3, further comprising passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ of person-centric data.

8 (currently amended): The method of Claim 7, whereby passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ of person-centric data includes passing an electronic mail address to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ of containing person-centric data.

9 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby passing the person name to at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ containing person-centric data includes passing the person name to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ via a persona menu application.

10 (currently amended): The method of Claim 9, further comprising querying the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ by the persona menu application.

11 (currently amended): The method of Claim 10, prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data, returning the ~~any~~ person-centric data associated with the person name from the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ to the persona menu application.

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12 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the any person-centric data, building a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~.

13 (currently amended): The method of Claim 4, whereby if when the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ ~~do~~ does not contain person-centric data matching unique identifying information associated with the person name, querying a contacts database for an alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name; and

passing the alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ for obtaining person-centric data for the an alternate electronic mail address.

14 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2, prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, further comprising:

obtaining at least one name centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~ for application to the person name; and

populating the data structure for the person name with the at least one name centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~.

15 (original): The method of Claim 1, prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data, labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality.

16 (original): The method of Claim 15, further comprising providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

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17 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

18 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes free/busy status information for the person name.

19 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name.

20 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name.

21 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name.

22 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a contacts database.

23 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes an instant messaging database.

24 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a distributed computing environment directory services database.

25 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a free/busy status database.

26 (currently amended): A computer readable medium containing computer readable instructions which when executed by a computer perform a method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

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parsing an electronic document for an electronic mail address associated with a person name;

passing the electronic mail address to at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ containing person-centric data;

at the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~, obtaining any person-centric data associated with the person name;

populating a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data obtained at the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~;

labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality

upon user selection of the labeled person name, providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document.

27 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, further comprising:

~~if~~ when no electronic mail address is available for the person name in the electronic document,

recognizing the person name from text or data in which the person name is included;

passing the recognized person name to a contacts database; and

at the contacts database, obtaining an electronic mail address for the person name.

28 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, whereby ~~if~~ when the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources do~~ does not contain person-centric data matching the electronic mail address, querying a contacts database for an alternate electronic mail address associated with the person name; and

passing the alternate electronic address associated with the person name to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ for obtaining person-centric data for the alternate electronic mail address.

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29 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data, building a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~.

30 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, further comprising displaying at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~ in the graphical user interface.

31 (currently amended): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, further comprising:

obtaining at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~ for application to the person name; and

populating the data structure for the person name with the at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~.

32 (original): The computer readable medium of Claim 31, further comprising providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

33 (original): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

34 (currently amended): A system for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

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a computer operative to operate at least one application program module ~~one or more application program modules~~ and to display at least one electronic document ~~one or more electronic documents~~ and graphical user interfaces;

an application program operative to receive, ~~text or data~~ in an electronic document, at least one member of a group comprising: text and data;

a persona menu application program operative

to parse the electronic document for a unique identification associated with a person name;

to pass the unique identification to at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ containing person-centric data;

to parse the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ for obtaining any person-centric data associated with the person name;

to populate a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data obtained at the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~;

to labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality; and

to provide a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, upon user selection of the labeled person name.

35 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, the persona menu application being further operative:

to recognize the person name from text or data in which the person name is included, ~~if~~ when no electronic mail address is available for the person name in the electronic document;

to pass the recognized person name to a contacts database; and

to obtain a unique identification for the person name at the contacts database.

36 (currently amended): The system of Claim 35, whereby the persona menu application is further operative:

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to query a contacts database for an unique identification associated with the person name if when the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ do ~~does~~ not contain person-centric data matching the an electronic mail address; and

to pass ~~the~~ an alternate unique identification associated with the person name to the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ for obtaining person-centric data for an the alternate electronic mail address.

37 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the persona menu application is further operative to build a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the ~~any~~ person-centric data.

38 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the persona menu application is further operative:

to obtain at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~ for application to the person name;

to populate the data structure for the person name with the at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~; and

to display the at least one name-centric action ~~one or more name-centric actions~~ in the graphical user interface.

39 (original): The system of Claim 34, the persona menu application being further operative to provide an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

40 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

41 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes free/busy status information for the person name.

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42 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name.

43 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name.

44 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name.

45 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a contacts database.

46 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes an instant messaging database.

47 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a distributed computing environment directory services database.

48 (currently amended): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source ~~one or more data sources~~ includes a free/busy status database.

49 (currently amended): The system of Claim 35, whereby the unique identification includes any data associated with the person name that may be used to identify the person name.

50 (original): The system of Claim 49, whereby the unique identification includes an electronic mail address for the person name.